



JAMES A. NOYES, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: **WR-2**

June 20, 2002

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE OBTAINING GRANT FUNDS FOR THE LOS ANGELES
RIVER PARKWAY GRANT PROGRAM UNDER THE SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS,
CLEAN WATER, CLEAN AIR, AND COASTAL PROTECTION BOND ACT OF 2000
IMPROVEMENTS AT RIO HONDO COASTAL BASIN SPREADING GROUNDS
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 1
3 VOTES**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Authorize the Director of Public Works to apply for two reimbursement grants totaling \$18,000,000 from the Secretary of the Resources Agency for construction of improvements at Rio Hondo Coastal Basin Spreading Grounds.
2. Approve the enclosed Resolutions and instruct the Chairman to sign the Resolutions.
3. Find that the construction of the proposed project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

We are recommending that your Board authorize the Director of Public Works to apply for two grants totaling \$18,000,000 to fund construction of improvements at the Rio Hondo Coastal Spreading Grounds. The proposed grants are under the Los Angeles River Parkway Program and the San Gabriel River Watershed, San Gabriel Mountains, and Lower Los Angeles River Program. Both programs are funded by the Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000 (Proposition 12).

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
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We are also recommending that your Board approve the enclosed Resolutions and instruct the Chairman to sign the Resolutions. The Resolutions are required by the Secretary of Resources Agency as part of the applications for grant reimbursement.

The proposed project is located along a 2-mile length of Bluff Road in the City of Montebello, which is located on the westerly boundary of Public Works' Rio Hondo Coastal Basin Spreading Grounds. On June 4, 2002, your Board authorized Public Works to engage Fugro West to analyze the stabilization issues along this length of Bluff Road, develop stabilization concept options, prepare design plans and specifications for the option chosen by Public Works, and provide as-needed technical support during the construction of the project, if undertaken. The scope of one of three project options anticipated to be developed by Fugro consists of the construction of crib walls to stabilize the slope and create additional parkway space at the top of the slope along Bluff Road, landscape the crib wall and the newly created open space with native plant species, and construct open space amenities that would benefit the City of Montebello, such as ornamental fencing, a bike/pedestrian path to connect to the existing LARIO Trail, and parking accommodations. The stabilization of the slope will also protect the existing equestrian trail at the toe of the slope. The scopes of the other two options to be developed by Fugro are anticipated to be lesser in scale, focusing more on the stabilization needs, slope landscaping, and ornamental fencing and less on the creation of additional open space for a parkway.

Public Works is seeking a grant under either one or a combination of both of the specified Proposition 12 programs to construct the proposed full-scale option. The City of Montebello has indicated support of this project and has agreed to provide maintenance and landscaping services for the proposed parkway along Bluff Road. Public Works would design and construct the project, maintain fences and gates, and maintain the stabilized slopes.

The slope stability analysis and development of all design concepts as originally specified in the contract with Fugro will proceed simultaneously with the State's grant selection process. In the event Public Works is not successful in obtaining Proposition 12 grant funds, Public Works will at that time reconsider which design concept option its budgetary constraints can allow and obtain the necessary authorizations from your Board to implement that option.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

These actions are consistent with the County Strategic Plan Goal of Fiscal Responsibility, Service Excellence, and Children and Families' Well Being. The grants will provide funding for a project for which use of Flood Control District and other funds may not be possible. The slope stabilization and parkway creation will enhance the quality of Public Works' water conservation services and contribute to the social well being of the residents of the surrounding communities by improving the aesthetics of the Rio Hondo Coastal Basin Spreading Grounds, preserving existing recreational access at the spreading grounds, and providing enhanced recreational opportunities.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The application for grants has no fiscal impact.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Adoption of the Resolution will authorize the Director of Public Works to file applications for the Los Angeles River Parkway Grant Program and the San Gabriel River Watershed, San Gabriel Mountains, and Lower Los Angeles River Program under the Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000. The Los Angeles River Parkway Grant Program and San Gabriel River Watershed, San Gabriel Mountains and Lower Los Angeles River Program Resolutions have been reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The project is categorically exempt from CEQA as specified in Sections 15301 and 15304 of the State's CEQA Guidelines.

Upon approval by your Board, Public Works will file a Notice of Exemption for the activities associated with the project in accordance with Section 21152(b) of the California Public Resources Code. A \$25 handling fee for the Notice will be paid to the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk for processing.

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IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

There is no adverse impact on current services.

CONCLUSION

Upon approval, please return two approved copies of this letter and four copies of the signed Resolutions to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. NOYES
Director of Public Works

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Enc.

cc: Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel
City of Montebello

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA,
TO AUTHORIZE OBTAINING GRAND FUNDS FOR
THE SAN GABRIEL WATERSHED, SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS,
AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVER GRANT PROGRAM
UNDER THE SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS, CLEAN WATER,
CLEAN AIR, AND COASTAL PROTECTION BOND ACT OF 2000**

WHEREAS, the Legislature and Governor of the State of California have provided funds for the program shown above; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Resources Agency has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of this grant program, establishing necessary procedures; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the Secretary of the Resources Agency require the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works to certify the approval of application(s) by Public Works' governing Board before submission of said application(s) to the State; and

WHEREAS, Public Works, if selected, will enter into an Agreement with the State of California to carry out the project(s); and

WHEREAS, Public Works intends to construct a crib wall to stabilize slopes, establish native landscaping, and provide open space for recreation that would be of general benefit to the citizens of the County; and

WHEREAS, the County Strategic Plan Goal of Fiscal Responsibility requires active seeking of project funds from outside agencies; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles:

1. Approves the filing of an application for the Rio Hondo Coastal Basin Spreading Grounds, Westside Slope Stability/Landscaping Project; and
2. Certifies that Public Works understands the assurances and certification in the application form; and
3. Certifies that the project is consistent with local or regional land use plans or programs; and

4. Certifies that Public Works has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project(s); and
5. Certifies that Public Works has reviewed and understands the provisions contained in the Grant Guide; and
6. Appoints the Director of Public Works or his designee as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute, and submit all documents including, but not limited to, applications, agreements, payment requests and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project(s).

The foregoing Resolution was on the _____ day of _____, 2002, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex-officio of the governing body of all other assessments and taxing district, agencies, and authorities for which said board so acts.

VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS
Executive Officer or the
Board of Supervisors of the
County of Los Angeles

By _____
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

LLOYD W. PELLMAN
County Counsel

By _____
Deputy

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA,
TO AUTHORIZE OBTAINING GRAND FUNDS FOR
THE LOS ANGELES RIVER PARKWAY GRANT PROGRAM
UNDER THE SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS, CLEAN WATER,
CLEAN AIR, AND COASTAL PROTECTION BOND ACT OF 2000**

WHEREAS, the Legislature and Governor of the State of California have provided funds for the program shown above; and

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County Counsel

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